

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-7, 9-15, and 16-24 are pending in the present application. By this Response, claims 2, 9, 16, and 21-24 are amended. Claims 2, 9, and 16 are amended to incorporate the subject matter of canceled claims 1, 8, and 15. Claims 21-24 are amended for dependency in view of the cancellation of claims 1, 8, and 15. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

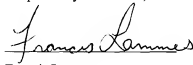
Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 16-21 are indicated allowable by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. By this response, claims 2, 9, and 16 are amended into independent form by including the subject matter of canceled claims 1, 8, and 15, respectively. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the subject application is now in condition for allowance. Since claims 3-7, 10-14, and 17-24 depend from independent claims 2, 9, and 16, these claims are also in condition for allowance.

II. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the prior art of record and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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